

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1752
172

Re Application of

Katsumi Maeda et al.

Serial No.: 09/750,116

Group Art Unit: 6329

Filed: December 29, 2000

Examiner: Rosemary E. Ashton

For: (METH) ACRYLATE DERIVATIVE, POLYMER AND PHOTORESIST
COMPOSITION HAVING LACTONE STRUCTURE, AND METHOD FOR
FORMING PATTERN BY USING IT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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STATUS INQUIRY LETTER

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests that the Patent Office notify the Applicant of the status of the above-identified application, including an indication as to when the next Patent Office communication can be expected.

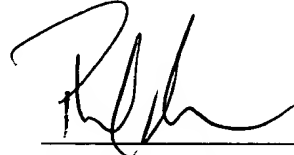
Applicant notes that the last written correspondence received from the Examiner in this case was an Office Action dated June 20, 2003 which suspended prosecution due to a potential interference. Therefore, it has been **over twenty (20) months** since the last written correspondence was received from the Patent Office.

Applicant notes that a Status Inquiry was filed on August 16, 2004, and a second Status Inquiry was filed on October 19, 2004, and Applicant has made numerous telephone calls nearly every week, to diligently monitor the status of the present Application. However, to date, no written response to these Status Inquiries has been received from the Patent Office.

Applicant notes that on December 7, 2004, Applicant conducted a teleconference with Ms. Christine Tierney, the interference specialist handling this case. She stated that the case had been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences which should next determine whether to declare an interference.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that Patent Office notify Applicant of the date when the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences can be expected, or when prosecution will be resumed in this Application.

Respectfully Submitted,



Phillip E. Miller
Reg. No. 46,060

Date: 2/24/05

McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254